

2017 JUN -9 AM 9:13

The Honorable Kymberly Marcos Pine, Chair and Members  
Committee on Zoning and Housing  
Honolulu City Council  
530 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Statement of Maki Kuroda  
CEO/President E Noa Corporation and Waikiki Trolley  
Before the  
CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU,  
CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON ZONING AND HOUSING  
Thursday, June 29, 2017

RE: Bills 63 and 64

Relating to Special Improvement Districts and the Establishment of the Waikiki Transportation Management Association Special Improvement District No. 4

Dear Chair Pine and Members of the Committee:

I am Maki Kuroda, testifying on behalf of E Noa Corporation and Waikiki Trolley. E Noa Corporation has been in business for more than 40 years, and offers sightseeing excursions in and around the island of Oahu. Waikiki Trolley covers most major attractions and major shopping malls on the island of Oahu.

I wish to express our strong support of Bills 63 and 64, adding transportation management to Special Improvement Districts (Bill 63) and the establishment of the Waikiki Transportation Management Association as a Special Improvement District (Bill 64).

As a member of the community that works, plays, and/or lives in Waikiki, we have become increasingly aware of our transportation trouble spots and issues. Commercial vehicle operations along Kalakaua, Ala Moana Boulevard, Seaside, Koa, and Lewers, among others, are increasingly having difficulties in conducting their businesses. Properly permitted commercial passenger and freight vehicles must routinely park where prohibited in order to keep Waikiki functioning.

Vehicles searching for a space to park and unload their goods add to the traffic congestion on residential streets, exacerbating a problem that desperately needs to be better managed. Examples: there are too few designated on-street parking spaces and loading zones. Those that do exist are not adequately managed, which forces many crucial commercial operators who need to use curb space to do so while illegally parked. Sometimes even illegal space is too unsafe, and forces vehicles to circle the streets.

We have reached a point where action is needed. The WTMA SID will allow us to solve these problems collectively with residents, businesses, and government working together. The purpose of the WTMA is to establish those projects, programs, and procedures that will serve Waikiki with high-quality, multi-modal, transportation facilities and services. Part of the overall program is to develop a permit system in partnership with the residents so they may have an active role in improving transportation to, through, and within Waikiki.

These increasing transportation issues have been noted in City studies. A Transportation Management Association has been recommended for Waikiki by at least three City studies; the Waikiki Regional Circulator Study, the Honolulu Urban Core Parking Master Plan, and the Waikiki Livable Community Project.

Thus, I speak in support of both Bills 63 and 64. If you have any questions feel free to contact me at 808-388-8454.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maki Kuroda".

Maki Kuroda  
CEO/President E Noa Corporation & Waikiki Trolley